

"ALL AT THE TABLE" PASTORAL PLAN

In 2007 Bishop Michael P. Driscoll announced his desire to begin a pastoral planning process entitled "All at the Table." Input was solicited from parishioners and pastoral leadership across the state via an "All at the Table" survey. This information was disseminated and discussed by pastoral leaders at Convocation 2008. While recognizing and celebrating the considerable pastoral, sacramental, catechetical, and charitable work that is being performed throughout the diocese on a daily basis, Convocation 2008 also identified several areas that warrant diocesan-wide attention. Through a process of ongoing consultation and deliberation, eight (8) generalized areas of pastoral concern emerged: Youth and Young Adults, Cultural Diversity, Stewardship, Hospitality, Evangelization, Formation, Ordained Life and Ministry, and Discipleship. Based on input and recommendations from Convocation 2009, these areas were then further consolidated into the following four (4) specific priorities:

Youth and Young Adults

Christ-Centered Communities

Christian Discipleship

Ordained and Consecrated Life

These priority areas form the cornerstone of our pastoral plan by providing a "snapshot" of what it means to be an "All at the Table" community. They present clear areas of focus for our pastoral efforts as we discern together where "we are," where "we want to be" in the future, and how we plan to get there.

ALL AT THE TABLE



Pastoral Priorities of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Boise

2008-2013



Dear Friends in Christ,

The image of a family table is central to our American tradition. It is at the table that we gather with family and friends to share our life experiences and celebrate our daily blessings. It is at the family table that we hear the stories of our ancestors and learn our family values. The image of table is also central to our Catholic tradition. It is at the Eucharistic table that we are nourished in our faith and formed by the values of our Church. It is at the Eucharistic table that we find the direction and strength to take what we believe out into the world. Finally, it is at the Eucharistic table that we are joined in communion with other pilgrims on the journey. It is no wonder that as I reflected on my hopes and dreams for the Diocese of Boise the image of a table came to mind – a table where all the faithful would be invited to **use their unique gifts and particular roles to grow in personal holiness, to transform our parish communities, and to renew our world.** This is the essence of what it means to be "All at the Table."

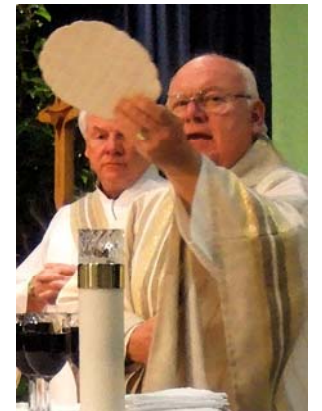
In seeking to become a Church of Idaho that embodies this vision, I invited Catholics from across the diocese to offer their input. The material gathered was reviewed, evaluated, and eventually integrated into the pastoral plan we have before us. Four particular priority areas have been identified that will deserve our attention and action over the course of the next 5 years. I invite all of our priests, deacons, religious, and laity to join me in the implementation of our pastoral plan.

As we move forward into the future, we do so in a spirit of promise and hope. I remain ever thankful for the diversity of gifts found among our people which enrich our diocese and make manifest God's love throughout our state. Utilizing our collective wisdom and faith, I have no doubt that together we will be able to use this opportunity to build a Church of Idaho where all are at the table!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Handwritten signature of Michael P. Driscoll.

Most Reverend Michael P. Driscoll, M.S.W., D.D.
Bishop of Boise





All at the Table

Pastoral Priorities

Youth and Young Adults

Provide relevant, creative, and theologically sound programs

Mentor competent leaders

Meaningfully involve youth and young adults

Christ Centered Communities

Nurture hospitality

Build relationships across cultures

Become a community of stewards

Unite in liturgy and prayer

Christian Discipleship

Live and preach the Gospel

Foster life long learning

Act justly

Ordained and Consecrated Life

Promote Vocations

Support Priestly Life and Ministry

Support Diaconal Life and Ministry

Support Religious Life and Ministry



HOW TO IMPLEMENT OUR PASTORAL PLAN

The success of our diocesan pastoral plan depends on the degree to which the strategies in each priority area are implemented. What concrete “action,” in other words, is being taken to achieve our goals and move forward our vision? This is the role of action plans. Action plans fill in the details by identifying the **how**, **who**, and **when** of the pastoral plan. They lay out specific steps necessary to achieve each strategy and assign timetables and accountability to these steps. The action plan serves as a means of coordinating and focusing our resources while providing an understanding of how our individual work (at every level) fits into the larger *All at the Table* vision.



1. Each **parish** is to focus on one or more of the suggested strategies in each priority area and develop an action plan which is reflective of local needs and realities.
2. Each **deanery** is to discern realistic “deanery-wide” activities for each priority area that promote collaboration, network, and the sharing of resources.
3. **Catholic schools and Campus Ministries** are to seek ways to integrate the diocesan priorities into their own strategic planning.
4. **Councils** are to use the pastoral plan to guide their deliberations and recommendations.
5. **Catholic organizations and groups** (i.e. religious communities, Knights of Columbus, Council of Catholic Women, St. Vincent De Paul, etc.) are invited to use the pastoral plan to inform and guide their unique ministries.
6. The **Diocese** is to oversee the pastoral planning process and provide ongoing support to the various groups as they organize and implement their action plans.

